

nice-times news

CHICAGO AREA TIMEX USERS GROUP

Chicago Area Timex Users Group

Downers Grove, Illinois

Volume 8, Number 3

May/June 1994

ROUTINES CATUG Club Officers CATUG Club Officers Contributors to this Issue Club Meetings Trea\$ury Note\$ Secretary's NotePad From the EDITOR's Disk GATOR's Twisted Pair (Our BBS) Items for SALE through the Club Special Deals and Buys Articles: MOVING PROGRAMS FROM TAPE TO DISK USING NMI Ads Ads

C.A.T.U.G. CLUB OFFICERS

Here is the list of 1994 club officers and how to contact them. The club has two strong SIGS, SPECTRUM/TS2068 and QL. If you have questions about either of these fine machines, or even the ZX81/TS1000/TS1500, call one of the officers. C=312, S=708.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Nazir Pashtoon	S439-1679	The buck stops here
Vice-President	Steve Cooper	S968-3553	Meeting Planning, etc.
Secretary	Larry Sauter	C763-5383	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Frank Mills		Dues and Purchasing
Editor	Bob Swoger	S576-8068	Newsletter, BBS, etc.

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NITE-TIMES NEWS

Nite-Times Information

The Mite-Times Mews is the newsletter of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group. For an annual fee of \$12.00 you can become a CATUG member and receive six newsletters each year. Write your check payable of the Downers Grove Public Library. Steve should always be contacted evenings at 708/968-3553 to confirm the meeting schedule. to:

FRANK MILLS 417 S 47th AVE BELLWOOD IL 60104

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Timex and Sinclair supporting user groups at no charge. Send all newsletter requests to:

CATUG EDITOR BOB SWOGER 613 PARKSIDE CIRCLE STREAMWOOD IL 60107-1647

If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of any charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know in your newsletter so that we might do this for our members and keep our attendance up.

Articles originating from our group may be downloaded from our BBS and reprinted.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE _____

Frank Mills Larry Sauter Bob Swoger, K9WVY

CLUB MEETINGS

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group meets on the THIRD Saturday of each month at the home of our meeting coordinator Steve Cooper in Downers Grove,

Illinois from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. Steve's home is lovingly called the CLUB HOUSE and is located at 1300 Maple Street in Downers Grove just 2 blocks southwest

TREASURY NOTES

The balance as of July 1, 1994 is \$364.43 Our current paid membership stands at 19.

Frank Mills, Treasurer Chicago Area Timex Users Group

SECRETARY'S NotePad

May 28,1994

Meeting began at approximately 2:00 P.M.

Members present: Bob Swoger, Jeff Decourtney, Larry Sauter, Steve Cooper, Nazir Pashtoon, Abed Kahale, Frank Mills, and John Donaldson.

The newsletter will be shipped in July barring any unforeseen occurrences.

Abed and Bob have not had too much time because of Bob's work constraints to discuss the new policy about T/SNUG.

John Donaldson has received the QL public domain library from Paul Holmgren in the form of zipped files and John hasn't unzipped them as of yet, but from what he has seen it looks like communication software.

Bob's wife got IBM 286 AT computer and the pig (as Bob calls it) still doesn't work as yet. At the CoCoFest Bob won a Monitor and keyboard and 2400 baud modem. He also purchased bought a 70 Meg hard drive for \$60 and Epson printer for \$20. When he gets it going, his wife should be pleased!

Les Cottrell bread boarded the Larken using Larry Kenny's parts and it works but when he put regular parts on the board it wouldn't work. Nazir brought out the fact that he was wondering if it would be possible to make a LarKen disc drive interface on only one board making it more compact and less cumbersome. Bob brought out that having the operating system operate on the dock port makes Larry's system usable on other disc drive interfaces that are not being supported as of this writing. The advantages are the extended DOS language, sequential files, and a real merge.

Toronto newsletter has gone heavily QL and Bob is getting ready to submit some articles on the TS2068 so it will be more balanced. George Chambers has bought an MS DOS 486 machine 8k RAM 340 Meg hard drive two floppies and a modem and he has been having a lot of fun with it including writing the letter that John was reading from. He wrote about a member coming to the meeting with news about Sir Clive coming out with a new Microprocessor that is faster than the Pentium and only will cost \$25. It sounds like an April fools joke. We will see.

Update magazine's Frank Davis is requesting encouragement to get some idea about how many people want him to continue publishing the magazine.

Al Boehm wrote and article about networking QL computers and teaching his grand children how to word process and becoming computer literate and it is a good reason for sticking together and use our computers to their optimum.

Nazir went to a store in Niles that had a lot of secondhand Apple computers that were going for the unheard price of \$545 and Bob asked if they had any Sinclairs in the store and he

said nobody wanted the Apples, did they.

It appears that AMIGA and Commodore is in the process of going under. Television stations and movie studios use AMIGAs to process images for viewers. Bad management seems to be the reason.

Bob is going to write an article for Update about not using state SAVEs of programs because you miss so much of the entertainment qualities of the program such as the music and the pictures etc.

June 11,1994

Meeting began at approximately 2:24 P. M. Members present: Bob Swoger, Larry Sauter, Steve Cooper, Nazir Pashtoon, Abed Kahale, Frank Mills, Cy Herre and Philip Kwitkowski.

Nazir fixed one of Jim Brezina's computers and proposed that it be kept as a spare in case one of the members either in town or out of town, has a break down and needs a computer to use while the out of order unit is being repaired. A vote was taken and was passed in favor of setting Jim's computer aside as a spare.

Newsletters containing Jimmy's articles were sent to his nieces to show some of Jimmy's contributions in the Chicago Area Timex Users Group.

Bob talked to Frank Davis and the pulse was felt in Indiana about continuing the Update magazine and Frank was told that Jim's equipment was given to two new users and that meant two new customers. Frank would like us to shake the bushes to roundup at least 25 new subscribers to the newsletter.

Larry Sauter, Acting Secretary Chicago Area Timex Users Group

From the EDITOR'S Disk

Sorry for the lateness of the NTN, folks. A battle (which we lost) with the Park District has occupied all my spare time. I hope to be back on schedule soon. Thanks one and all for keeping those newsletters coming in to us. We will catch up soon, I hope.

Bob Swoger, Editor Chicago Area Timex Users Group

GATOR'S TWISTED PAIR

!!! REMEMBER!!!
We have a 24 hour BBS and
encourage you to exchange mail
and contribute to the Download
Section. Use it and have fun!

Call the BBS at 708-632-5558 and register. On your next call your security level will be increased to 5 on this RBBS and you will be able to have most privileges.

Bob Swoger, SYSop Chicago Area Timex Users Group

ITEMS FOR SALE THROUGH THE CLUB

It has come to our attention that some Larken Users are using something less than Version 3 firmware. The club will supply updated EPROMs, SYSTEM DISKS, and MANUALS for just \$5 which includes shipping and handling, free if ordered with LogiCall or Spectrum ROM.

SPECIAL DEALS AND BUYS

NAP_Ware (Nazir A. Pashtoon's new endeavor) announces the availability of all Timex or QL PAL (Programmable Array Logic) chips. If interested, call him evenings on 708-439-1679.

So you like to fly? The 747 Flight Simulator for Spectrum by Derek Ashton of DACC sold over 40K copies in EUROPE. Requires Spectrum Emulator. At this time supplied on Larken

SSDD disk only for \$10 which goes to Derek Ashton, now working at MOTOROLA with Bob Swoger. Call in requests to Bob at W708-576-8068 H708-837-7957

ARTICLES

MOVING PROGRAMS FROM TAPE TO DISK USING NMI

by Bob Swoger

I have noted how other NMI SAVE users have transferred programs from tape to disk using the NMI save button. So much of the program is being lost! We paid good money for those programs. Developers spent considerable time putting those programs together. They spent time making startup screens and musical menus we would enjoy while waiting for the lengthy process of a tape load. Sometimes those screens and the music were neater than the programs themselves! They gave instructions ahead of the programs to inform us as to how the programs were to work.

Saving those programs to disk with a straight NMI save after the program begins to run is a travesty. We lose all that good programming work needlessly.

Let me now tell you how I go about making myself a disk program out of a Tape program.

- 1.) SCAN all the written documentation and store it as a TASWORD 2 file.
- 2.) NMI save the Startup screen.
- NMI save the instructions and startup menus if separate from the main running program.
- 4.) NMI SAVE the main program at precisely the point it begins to run.

third row, Q W E R etc."

16.) MERGE the BASIC driver program and re write it to put all the files together.

On a program called Knight Lore, a Spectrum game, I caused the DOCs to come up on the screen just after the startup screen using a GOTHIC font with colors to add to the pleasure of the game. Below is the driver I wrote which included the font in the O REM line!

O REM put your font code here 3 GO TO 300

7 INK 0: PAPER 0: BORDER 0: CLS: RANDOMIZE USR 100: LOAD

"knight.C\$"SCREEN\$: GO SUB 980:

GO SUB 100

10 BEEP 1 1: PERD 1 2 THE

110 CLS : PRINT AT 0,0;" K N I G H T L O R E N I G H T L O R E 270 PRINT "Behind me I feel night's darkicy fingers 120 PRINT ''" KEYBOARD slither up longlooming controls"'"LEFT Your shadows, hiding behindlarge mounds will turnleft using the Z C B and boulders, watching my and M keys." every move . . . silently 130 PRINT "RIGHT Your waiting . . .

Adventurer will turnright using the X V N or S Shft."

140 PRINT "MOVE FORWARD Your the Adventurerwill move forward jungle wulf to'KNIGHT LORE' using any key on the second row, castle to seek theold dying A S D F etc."

5.) Rename the NMI SAVEs to
more appropriate names for the
BASIC driver in the next step.

150 PRINT "JUMP Your
Adventurer will jumpusing any key
on the third row, Q W E R etc."
160 PRINT "PICK UP/DROP Your

23648

40 POKE 23662, PEEK 23618: POKE
23663, PEEK 23619: POKE
23664, PEEK 23621

80 REM LOAD "P.B1"
90 RANDOMIZE USR 100: LOAD

260 PRINT AT 2,0; "My journey s end is near; as thelast few ebbs of daylight dancefleetingly in the cooling twi-light, then suddenly dart off to chase the red sinking sun."

280 PRINT " For days I have journeyed from the realms of wizard and ask for his help to free me from this deathly curse . . ."
290 GO SUB 980

330 PRINT " My footsteps echo around the damp mossy TO SAVEVOLDSETS TO SAVEVOL walls of

the largechamber, as I enter through theopen main through theopen main 620 PRINT AT gateway, colossaldoors judder THE WEREWULF open in an untouch-ed groaning symphony, beckoning me forward on my quest.

340 PRINT " I sense the old wizard's gaze playing upon encapsulatedwithin the labyrinth of trapsand tests, to keep out all butthe most persistent torches light the massive of unwantedguests who seek an audience with the great their tiredflickering flames wizard MELKHIOR. " never seemingto penetrate the

390 GO SUB 980 430 PRINT AT 2,0; "Suddenly a cool blue mist startsto ebb forth forth
from the cracks inthe ancient
stone-work. As itdoes so it
begins to take formand
becomes a powerful

650 PRINT " Crystalline
Merkyls, hideous Hobgoblins,
stand
frozen on hugemonoliths,
glittering in thecool begins to take formand

I,0;"

": NEXT I 490 GO SUB 980 510 PRINT AT 0,0;" THE MIST TUNES

530 PRINT AT 4,0;"THE WIZARD'S quickly and in the fullness of OLDER NOW THAN ALL, HIS HELP YOU its cool bluelight, I become a SEEK WITHIN THISWALL. FOR Werewulf . . . FORTY DAYS YOUR QUESTMAY LOCATE THE POTION, MAKE IT FAST!

540 PRINT "THIS HIDEOUS SPELL UPON YOURSOUL, TO LOSE 290 GO SUB 980

320 PRINT AT 2,0;" For ITS

countless nights I have slept HOLD MUSTBE YOUR GOAL.

chained BEWARE, THE

to trees to keepmy deathly TRAPS FROM HEREBEGIN, THE

curse at bay, but now I am

bere TRAPS FROM HEREBEGIN, THE

CAULDRON

TELLS WHATMUST GO IN TO TELLS WHATMUST GO IN TO

> TO SAVEYOURSELF AND MAKE YOU WELL." 590 GO SUB 980 620 PRINT AT 0,0;"

630 PRINT AT 2,0;" The mist 630 PRINT AT 2,0;" The mist suddenly ceases its action and dissipates as quicklyas it came. I drop to the floorand with full knowledge of the old wizard I begin my quest.

> 640 PRINT " Dimly lit inky darkness for more than a few feet . . .

650 PRINT " Crystalline "

440 PRINT " Over all of the noise can be heard the chanting and singing of long forgotten tunes, allsung in a blur of forgetfulness."

450 FOR I=13 TO 21: PRINT "

I.O." In thecool trembling moonlight. En-capsulated by the old wizardlong ago, they await their fatein an un-ending task of defence, silently and stoney. "

690 GO SUB 980

guardians of 'KNIGHT LORE' castle,

until the ultimate death of the old sorcerer . . .

740 PRINT " The moon has risen

750 PRINT " My fate is now all too clear, I have but forty days and fortynights to find the old wizardand seek his

help and magicalinstruction, before my tormentedsoul becomes forever werewulf ! ! ! " 780 FOR I=18 TO 21: PRINT AT I,0;" ": NEXT I 790 INPUT INK 6;" Press ENTER to CONTINUE "; LINE A\$ 910 RETURN 980 INPUT INK 6;" Press ENTER to CONTINUE "; LINE A\$ 990 BEEP .1,1: BEEP .1,2: BEEP .1,3: BEEP .1,4: BEEP .1,5: PAPER 0: BORDER 0: INK 0: BRIGHT 1: RETURN 9989 STOP 9992 RANDOMIZE USR 100: SAVE -"KNIGHT.B1" LINE 7 9998 POKE 23606 0. POKE

23607,60	
9999 RANDOMIZE USR 100: LOAD "L.B1"	
This program can be downloaded from the CATUG - T/SNUG BBS.	
ADS	
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% %%% %%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%	
IBM XT CLONE 20mg HD CGA mono	
640K RAM 360K FFD lots of s/w	
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Dan 708-359-7293 eves.

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and accessories.	books. Please notify me
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Windows or any screen grab	COCO HARDWARE FOR SALE:
program for DOS based	1. COCOIII w/Tandy 512K RAM &
applications. If you have or	w/manual & ECB User's Guide if
know of anyone who has this	desired\$75
type of software, contact me	2. COCOII 64K RAM ECB\$10
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FOR SALE 940304	require from \$10 to \$15 U.S.
\$	
SINCE I GOT IT AT A GOOD PRICE,	Postage for 1st Class, insured. UPS via truck (10 days) is
I'LL BE GLAD TO GIVE IT UP AT	
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A GOOD PRICE. INDIVIDUAL PARTS	are supposed to be covered for
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^	

Thanks for your II PATTENCE !! With the help of Phillip Kwitkowski we're rollin' again!

--==GATOR==--